

The characteristically selfless Rabbi Klatzko has organized and financed a learning program for children of yungeleit, and opened a summer day camp for secular boys in San Jose, CA. It is Rabbi Klatzko's wish that he can some day serve a congregation in Israel. He has a tremendous interest in leading and teaching a growing Jewish community.

It is an honor to have such an outstanding community leader and caring individual become a resident of my congressional district. Rabbi Klatzko is a man of great conviction. I am certain my colleagues will rise with me and honor this remarkable gentleman.

EPISCOPAL HEALTH SERVICES: A
MODEL OF SERVICE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 5, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to highlight the grand opening and dedication of the Bishop B. Hucles Nursing Home in Brooklyn on May 8, 1997. The nursing home will be part of Episcopal Health Services, Inc. [EHS].

EHS is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing a continuum of quality health care services through hospitals, long-term facilities, and primary care centers from inner-city Brooklyn and Queens to Suffolk and Nassau Counties. For almost 150 years, the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island has overseen EHS as it set the standard for community based care in the region. Today, EHS is one of the 10 largest healthcare organizations in New York State.

The Bishop Henry B. Hucles Nursing Home is located only a few blocks east of the Homes for the Aged and Blind, and will continue the tradition of community service and individualized care by providing a new home for all of the current residents of Homes for the Aged and Blind. This new facility will provide state-of-the-art care for even more residents while reaching out to others in the community through day care activities and special programs. The Hucles Nursing Home will be able to accommodate 240 residents, will provide around the clock nursing care, serve as an adult day care center, provide pastoral care, and an array of other services.

I am delighted that the Bishop Henry B. Hucles Nursing Home will be available to service patients sorely in need of care. I commend Episcopal Health Services for its vision and execution in developing this outstanding service center.

WELFARE REFORM TECHNICAL
CORRECTIONS ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM MCCRERY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 1997

Mr. MCCRERY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to express my views on one particular provision of the technical corrections bill before us today. This provision has to do with the eligibility of children for SSI benefits, and changes made in determining eligibility in accordance with last year's welfare reform law. Public Law 104-193; current law defines the period for the Social Security Administration [SSA] to make childhood medical determinations to 1 year following enactment of the welfare reform law. That is, eligibility redeterminations need to be made in required cases by no later than August 22, 1997. However, there may be some cases inadvertently missed during that period. Such children could be discovered during a continuing disability review or other file review after August 22, 1997. SSA argues that these cases, once discovered, could be subject to the medical improvement standard rather than applying the new eligibility criteria. This would result in the continuation of benefits to children who did not meet the new eligibility criteria.

I disagree with this interpretation.

Congress intended that all children affected by these changes would be redetermined using the new eligibility criteria and not the medical improvement standard. The time period for redetermination contained in Public Law 104-193 was included solely for the purpose of forcing the Social Security Administration to make an expeditious completion of the redetermination of eligibility for all affected children. In fact, the record of the proceedings of the Ways and Means Committee will show that the Social Security Administration was directly questioned as to the amount of time needed to complete the redeterminations. Due to the administration's delay in releasing implementing regulations, the committee has decided to extend the period of time for SSA to determine the eligibility of any child receiving SSI benefits on August 22, 1996, whose eligibility may be affected by changes in the childhood eligibility criteria from 12 to 18 months. The committee expects SSA to comply with the direction of the law, and will hold the Commissioner of Social Security fully responsible for noncompliance.

IN HONOR OF BAYONNE ELKS
LODGE 434: PROUD PARTICI-
PANTS IN ELKS NATIONAL
YOUTH WEEK

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 5, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional organization, the Bayonne Elks Lodge 434 as they participate in this year's Elks National Youth Week. A group of 30 young people will take part in an awards luncheon to be held at the Elks Lodge 434 in Bayonne.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Bayonne Elks Lodge 434 is an organization committed to active involvement in the lives of community residents in the town of Bayonne. During their long history, the selfless efforts of these exceptional people have supported such diverse groups as veterans of all wars and handicapped children. Additionally, the Bayonne Elks Lodge 434 has promoted youth oriented causes related to drug awareness and annually holds a special youth day in recognition of the contributions of high school seniors to Bayonne.

I believe that the best way to ensure the future prosperity of our great Nation is to provide our young people with the broadest possible experiences from which they can learn and grow. Elks National Youth Week is a time when this philanthropic organization recognizes the achievements and contributions of our young adults. The Bayonne Elks Lodge 434, by holding their yearly youth day, affords high school seniors the chance to witness the governmental process firsthand. Students are assigned positions within city government, sworn into their positions, and tour Bayonne City Hall with the corresponding city official.

Through their participation in the Bayonne Elks Lodge 434 Annual Youth Day, the young people being honored are well on their way to becoming our future leaders of tomorrow. Each person has worked during their school careers and have overcome many obstacles. They are the premier students in their respective high schools. The people of Bayonne will undoubtedly one day benefit from the talents of these exceptional young men and women.

I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding the outstanding efforts of the Bayonne Elks Lodge 434. I am proud to have this exemplary organization working on behalf of the residents of my congressional district.